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Claims

- 10 1. A medicament comprising a plurality of coated drug particles, each having an average particle size of less than 500 μm in diameter, the surface of said particles comprising at least a first layer of biodegradable and biocompatible polymeric coating particles, wherein the average thickness of said coating layer is between 1 and 15 500 nm, the coated drug particles being obtainable through a process comprising depositing said polymeric coating particles onto the surface of host drug particles by a process comprising pulsed laser ablation.
- 20 2. The medicament according to claim 1, wherein said coating particles are selected from the group consisting of PLA, PGA, PLGA and cellulose compounds.
- 25 3. The medicament according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said drug particles have an average particle size of less than 400 μm in diameter, preferably less than 300 μm , further preferred less than 200 μm , further preferred less than 100 μm , further preferred less than 50 μm , further preferred less than 10 μm , further preferred less than 5 μm , 30 further preferred less than 1 μm , further preferred less than 0.1 μm .
- 35 4. The medicament according to any preceding claim, wherein the average thickness of said coating layer is between 1 and 400 nm, preferably 2 and 300 nm, further preferred 3

Amended claims

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ing of budesonide, triamcinolone acetonide, and rifampicin.

- 5 11. A pharmaceutical formulation comprising the medicament of any preceding claim.
- 10 12. The formulation according to claim 11, comprising from 0.01 % to 10 % by weight of said medicament relative to the total weight of the formulation.
13. The formulation according to claim 11 or 12, containing from 0.1 % to 1 % by weight of said medicament relative to the total weight of the formulation.
- 15 14. The formulation according to any one of claims 11 to 13, comprising a respirable fraction of from about 20 % to about 50 % or more by weight of said medicament.
- 20 15. The formulation according to any of claims 11 to 13, further comprising a second medicament.
- 25 16. The formulation according to claim 15, wherein said second medicament is a particulate medicament.
17. The formulation according to claim 15, wherein said second medicament comprises a medicament in accordance with any one of claims 1 to 10.
- 30 18. The formulation according to any one of claims 11 to 17, comprising a first bronchodilatory medicament and a second medicament selected from the group consisting of an anti-inflammatory agent, a bronchodilatory agent, an an-

tibiotic agent, and an anti-allergic agent.

19. The formulation according to any one of claims 11 to 18,
further comprising a vehicle suitable for aerosol admini-
5 stration of said formulation.
20. The formulation according to claim 19 further comprising
a propellant.
- 10 21. The formulation according to claim 20, wherein said pro-
pellant is selected from the group consisting of a
fluorocarbon and a hydrogen-containing chlorofluorocar-
bon.
- 15 22. A therapeutic kit comprising the medicament of any one
of claims 1 to 10, or the formulation according to any
one of claims 11 to 21, and instructions for the admini-
stration of said medicament.
- 20 23. The therapeutic kit of claim 22, further comprising an
aerosol delivery apparatus or a medical device suitable
for pulmonary administration of said medicament.
- 25 24. The use of coated drug particles as defined in any of the
claims 1 to 10 or of a formulation according to any of
the claims 11 to 21 for the manufacture of a medicament
for treating a respiratory disorder or a pulmonary infec-
tion in a human patient.
- 30 25. A method of preparing coated drug particles as defined in
any of the claims 1 to 10, the method comprising deposit-
ing onto the surface of a host drug particle at least a

first layer that comprises a plurality of polymeric coating particles by a process comprising pulsed laser ablation under vacuum.

5 26. The method according to claim 25, wherein said pulsed laser ablation comprises a laser having a wavelength of about 240 to about 280 nm.

10 27. The method according to claim 25 or 26, wherein said pulsed laser ablation comprises a laser having a wavelength of about 248 nm.

add A2
add A3

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